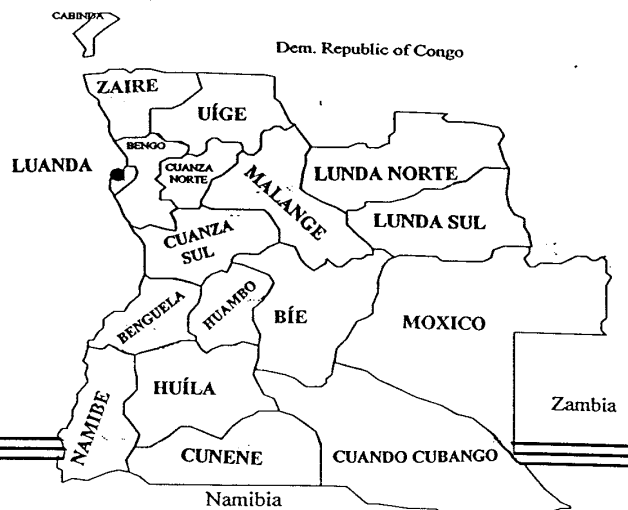
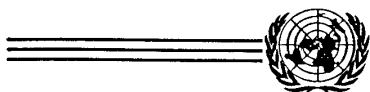


# DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

MONUA Public Information Office



Nº872 - MARCH 09, 1998

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## UNITA DECLARES ITS DEMILITARIZATION

(Source: MONUA/PIO, March 9)

After several days of discussions by the Joint Commission in Luanda, UNITA today issued a formal declaration to the effect that it no longer has a military force.

The declaration, which was presented to a late-afternoon meeting of the Joint Commission, recalls that since December 1997, 7,877 UNITA soldiers had been registered and some 5,980 had been demobilised IN SITU. The UNITA declaration adds that a special and final IN SITU demobilization operation of its forces would take place between 11 and 15 March 1998 in some fifteen areas of Angola and that UNITA high-ranking officers will be demobilized in Bailundo between 16 and 19 March 1998. The Government and UNITA had also made a commitment to demobilise and integrate on 20 March Dr. Savimbi's 400-strong personal guard into the national police.

The Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General in Angola, Mr Behrooz Sadry praised UNITA and the Government of Angola, for their commitment to the peace process. "This declaration, he said, would without doubt boost the peace process and facilitate the conclusion of the remaining

tasks of the Lusaka Protocol."

The Government of Angola and UNITA, together with the Troika of observer States (United States, Russia, Portugal) also agreed to implement a 12-point calendar which would culminate with the ending of UNITA's Radio Vorgan broadcasts and the installation of the UNITA leadership in Luanda on 31 March 1998.

By April 1 1998, all the so-called sensitive areas under UNITA control would be returned to Government authority. These include Bailundo and Andulo, two of UNITA's main strongholds and residences of the UNITA leader, Dr. Jonas Savimbi.

Among other important breakthroughs tonight, the Government is to issue a declaration on 11 March on the legislation of UNITA as a political party, and promulgate the law giving a special status to UNITA's leader. The Government would also appoint on 16 March all UNITA governors, vice governors and ambassadors as called for in the Lusaka Peace Accords. Furthermore, the Government will begin, as of today, the disarming of the civilian population.

The acting SRSg told the press that discussions on the planned meeting between Head of State Eduardo dos Santos and Dr. Savimbi did not take place at the Joint

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Savimbi did not take place at the Joint Commission but the United Nations would welcome such meeting to reaffirm the two leader's steadfast commitment to a lasting peace and national reconciliation in Angola. He called on the media to help in fostering an environment conducive to a full national reconciliation process.

The Government of Angola and UNITA signed on November 1994 in Lusaka (Zambia) a UN-brokered peace protocol to end nearly two decades of a civil war that claimed hundreds of thousands of lives.

#### **UNITA ISSUES AWAITED DECLARATION**

(Source: Jornal de Angola, March 7)

Yesterday, UNITA declared its total demilitarization. The document was signed by UNITA's vice president, Antonio Dembo. Based on that, the Joint Commission stipulated the 31st of March as the deadline for the conclusion of the peace process and the fulfilment of all tasks mandated by the Lusaka Protocol. With UNITA's declaration, one of the primary tasks has been accomplished.

A special and final demobilization operation "IN SITU" will take place between the 11th and 15th of this month, in 15 locations around the country. In UNITA's declaration it was also stated that the generals in Bailundo will be demobilized between the 16th and 19th of this month.

According to UNITA, since December 1997, more than 7,877 of its soldiers were registered, and of this number, about 5,980 were demobilized.

Regarding the presentation of this declaration, the American ambassador to Angola, Mr. Donald Steinberg, stressed the importance of the declaration, and said he was certain that the parties would carry out all their responsibilities.

#### **INAROE DESTROYS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCES**

(Source: Jornal de Angola, March 7)

In February, the National Institute for the Removal of Explosive Ordnances (INAROE), destroyed 44 explosives of various types in Kuito, the acting provincial director of this organization, Freitas Jacob, told the Angolan press agency ANGOP.

He added that the destroyed material included 18 hand grenades, 18 mortar projectiles of different calibres, one anti-tank mine and one anti-personnel mine.

According to Mr. Jacob, this clearance enabled the recovery of 4,845 square metres of land, mainly in the area of the Kuito airport.

#### **UNITA MUST HONOUR COMMITMENT**

(Source: Jornal de Angola, March 9)

UNITA must apply its efforts to fulfil its commitments. The international community is very understanding and the Government has demonstrated before the international community its skills and capacity for dialogue and flexibility, the Spanish secretary of Cooperation, Fernando Villalonga, told the press upon his departure from Luanda, after an official three day visit to Angola. The Spanish official affirmed that despite the difficulties that the process has encountered, there is great willingness on the part of both parties to ensure the consolidation of peace.

"The international community can not continue to be patient," Villalonga said and urged Dr. Savimbi and UNITA to honour the accords and commitments in the framework of the Lusaka Protocol.

During his visit, Mr. Villalonga had discussed with the acting UN SRSG in Angola, Mr. Behrooz Sadry, the latest developments in the peace process.

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**SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR TO  
ANGOLA IS HOPEFUL**

(Source: Jornal de Angola, March 9)

The South African ambassador to Angola, Mr. Roddy Manpany, expressed on Saturday in Lubango, his hope to have a definitive peace take hold in Angola soon, despite the ups and downs witnessed in the peace process.

Mr. Manpany said that the consolidation of peace is important so that the Angolan people engage themselves in the rehabilitation and construction of the country.

According to him, sectors of priority are sanitation and food assistance, as they were the most affected by the war.

The ambassador was in Lubango to attend the ceremony for the laying of the cornerstone for the new edifice of the Technical Professional Health Institute.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**RADIO**

The Public Information Office (PIO) of MONUA produces and broadcasts a radio program in Portuguese, Monday through Saturday\*\*\*Times are as follows:

11:00, 14:00 and 21:00 - Monday to Friday.

10:00 -12:00 - Saturday.

\*\*\* A radio program in French is broadcast every Friday at 21:30

\*\*\* Radio frequencies are as follows:

AM - 219M - 1367 Khz,  
- 276M - 1088 Khz

SW - 31M - 9720 Khz  
- 25M - 11955 Khz  
- 41M - 4245 Khz  
- 60M - 4950 Khz  
- 90M - 3375 Khz

FM - 93.5 Mhz

**T E L E V I S I O N**

\*\*\* MONUA PIO also produces a TV program which can be seen on Angolan National Television (TPA), on Wednesday and Fridays following the evening news, as well as on Sundays between 12h10 and 12h40.

**FROM : FERNANDO GOMES/PIO**